

C.O.B.I.

FEB 23 2012

Dear Members of the Planning Commission and City Council,

As you consider the next phases of updating the Bainbridge Shoreline Master Program (SMP), I would like you to be sure that protections for our vital shoreline will be incorporated and will be based on science. I support the inclusion of the following provisions in the new SMP:

- Protect critical areas including fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas and critical saltwater habitats.
- Protect existing natural vegetation and promote the planting of native plants.
- Provide abundant and appropriate public access to the shoreline in a way that does not harm the ecosystem.
- Responsibly address new development to protect ecological function, public access and safety.

As a community with over 53 miles of shoreline, this is your opportunity as a leader to help protect and restore the health of Puget Sound. I support the protection and restoration of the Island's shorelines and urge the city to adopt a SMP with strong environmental safeguards. Thank you!

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